

Message Text

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50

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03

ACDA-19 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 H-03 OMB-01 NIC-01 EURE-00 DODE-00

SAM-01 DRC-01 /125 W

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P R 091525Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7736

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION CSCE GENEVA

UNCLAS HELSINKI 1557

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FI

SUBJECT: COMMENTS OF LEADERS OF FINNISH POLITICAL
PARTIES ON THE CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATION
IN THE UNITED STATES AND ITS EFFECT ON
THE CSCE

FOLLOWING ARE COMMENTS BY LEADERS OF FINNISH
POLITICAL PARTIES AS REPORTED IN THE PRESS ON

AUGUST 9:

1. SOCIAL DEMOCRATS: BEGIN QUOTE: FIRST VICE-
CHAIRMAN VEIKKO HELLE OF THE FINNISH SOCIAL
DEOMCRATIC PARTY (SDP) SAYS THAT PRESIDENT NIXON'S
WORK IN FAVOR OF A POLICY OF PEACE HAS BEEN REMARK-
ABLE AND SUCCESSFUL. HELLE HOPES THAT THE NEXT
PRESIDENT OF THE US CONTINES THIS POLICY
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OUTLINED BY NIXON. ACCORDING TO HELLE,

NIXON'S RESIGNATION DOES NOT HAVE TO MEAN A POSTPONEMENT OF THE THIRD STAGE OF THE CSCE BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT THE POLICY OF THE US WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE SAME AS DURING NIXON'S TIME. AND THERE WILL BE NO INTERRUPTION BECAUSE THE NEW PRESIDENT IS GOING TO ASSUME THE POST IMMEDIATELY, HELLE SAID. END QUOTE.

2. CENTER PARTY: BEGIN QUOTE: CHAIRMAN JOHANNES VIROLAINEN OF THE CENTRE PARTY SAYS THAT PRESIDENT NIXON WAS IN THE FIELD OF FOREIGN POLICY PERHAPS THE MOST REMARKABLE ONE OF THE POST-WAR PRESIDENTS OF THE US. IN DOMESTIC POLITICS, ON THE OTHER HAND, HE BECAME ENTANGLED IN THE POWER STRUGGLE JUNGLE AND WAS NOT ABLE TO GET OUT OF IT. NIXON EXERCISED A REMARKABLE INFLUENCE ON WORLD HISTORY BY OPENING THE RELATIONS OF THE US TO THE SOVIET UNION, VIROLAINEN SAID. IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE US WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE SAME DESPITE NIXON'S RESIGNATION. IT MAY HOWEVER BE SO THAT THE STRONG ORIENTATION TOWARD EUROPE WHICH PREVAILED DURING HIS TIME WILL BE WEAKENED. THIS COULD ALSO HAVE A NEGATIVE INFLUENCE ON THE REALIZATION OF THE THIRD STAGE OF THE CSCE, VIROLAINEN SAID. END QUOTE.

3. CONSERVATIVES: BEGIN QUOTE: CHAIRMAN HARRI HOLKERI OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY WISHES THAT THE POLICY OF LESSENING OF TENSION WILL CONTINUE DESPITE PRESIDENT NIXON'S RESIGNATION. ACCORDING TO HOLKERI THE FOREIGN POLICY REALIZED UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF NIXON HAS OPENED NEW ROADS IN THE LESSENING OF TENSION. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE FINNS TO INTERFERE WITH THE POLICIES OF THE BIG POWERS. IT IS THEREFORE DIFFICULT TO SAY WHETHER THE POLICY AIMED AT A LESSENING OF TENSION WILL CONTINUE. SMALL COUNTRIES HAVE THE TASK OF CREATING PREMISES FOR THE CONTINUATION OF SUCH A POLICY, HOLKERI SAYS. ACCORDING TO HOLKERI, UNCLASSIFIED

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PRESIDENT NIXON'S RESIGNATION DOES NOT HAVE TO MEAN A SET-BACK TO THE CONVENING OF THE THIRD STAGE OF THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE IN FINLAND BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR. THE FOREIGN POLICY AND SECURITY POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES HAVE BEEN SECURED SEVERAL TIMES OVER. THE RESIGNATION OF ONE PERSON CANNOT DECISIVELY INFLUENCE THE SITUATION, HOLKERI REMARKS. END

QUOTE.

4. SWEDISH PARTY: BEGIN QUOTE: CHAIRMAN C.O. TALLGREN OF THE SWEDISH PEOPLE'S PARTY SAYS THAT PRESIDENT NIXON'S TIME HAS BEEN A PERIOD OF LESSENING OF INTERNATIONAL TENSION. ACCORDING TO HIM, THE EASTERN POLICY OF THE US HAS DURING THIS PERIOD COME INTO A TOTALLY DIFFERENT LIGHT. TALLGREN HAS THE OPINION THAT THE POLICY AIMING AT A LESSENING OF TENSIONS WILL CERTAINLY CONTINUE ALSO IN THE FUTURE, SINCE SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL CONTINUE IN OFFICE. THE REPUTATION OF THE US AS THE LEADING STATE OF THE WEST HAS RECEIVED MANY SCRATCHES FROM THE WATERGATE AFFAIR. HOWEVER, I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT NIXON'S RESIGNATION IN ANY WAY INFLUENCES THE REALIZATION OF THE THIRD STAGE OF THE CSCE, TALLGREN SAYS. END QUOTE.

5. LIBERALS: BEGIN QUOTE: CHAIRMAN PEKKA TARJANNE OF THE LIBRAL PEOPLE'S PARTY ASSUMES THAT TENSION IN THE WORLD HAS LESSENERED DURING NIXON'S TIME. HIS CONTRIBUTION HAS BEEN A POSITIVE ONE DESPITE THE POINT THAT HE WILL REMAIN IN HISTORY AS AN UNPLEASANT PERSON BECAUSE OF HIS PERSONAL TRAITS. TARJANNE HOPES THAT NIXON'S RESIGNATION WOULD NOT BE USED FOR AN OBSTRUCTION OF THE THIRD STAGE OF THE CSCE. END QUOTE.

6. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, NO REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY (SKP) OR ITS PARLIAMENTARY FRONT-ORGANIZATION, THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC UNCLASSIFIED

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LEAGUE (SKDL) HAD BEEN AVAILABLE THIS MORNING FOR COMMENT.

WHITE

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